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SINCE 1927

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February 3, 2004

VIA FACSIMILE AND FIRST CLASS MAIL

Eugene L. Matan, Esq. MATAN, GEER & WRIGHT 261 South Front Street Columbus, OH 43215-5089

Re:

Jefferson-Pilot Life Insurance Co. v. Christopher L. Kearney U. S. District Court, Southern District of Ohio, Western Division Case No. C-1-02-479

Dear Mr. Matan:

Confirming our telephone conversation at 5:05 p.m. yesterday, it is my understanding that you and Mr. Roberts are not willing to alter the scheduled date for the deposition of Mr. Kearney, which I will be unable to take on the 5th of February, 2004, nor the date for the response to your Motion for Summary Judgment which is currently set for February 16, 2004. As I explained, I have been asked to take over this case due to Ms. Johnson's physical condition and have not yet received the case file from her office. I will on this date file a Motion and ask the Court's indulgence to enable me to review what has been represented to be a large claim file and the case file to properly represent my client. I will make every effort to do this as expediently as possible.

While I do understand, that you tell me you had prior difficulties due to Ms. Johnson's physical condition, I had hoped for a modicum of professional courtesy as was extended to your co-counsel only yesterday morning by my office in another matter. I will file the substitution of counsel and motion for additional time today.

Eugene L. Matan, Esq. February 3, 2004 Page 2

It is indeed unfortunate that I am required to seek judicial intervention in order to have appropriate time to review the material in this case.

Thank you for your kind consideration of my request.

Very truly yours,

William R. Ellis

WRE/pp 198261.1